

A LEADING QUESTION.

WHAT WILL THE WORLD BE LIKE A HUNDRED YEARS HENCE!

The City of Rome Will Be an Antediluvian Curiosity-Steam as Old Fushioned as Donkey Power-The Sea, and the Sky, and the Trees Not Old Fushioned.

[Copyright by American Press Association.] The City of Rome is a big ship, and approaches the greatest perfection reached by steamshipwrights, but one day in the middle of the Atlantic ocean somebody suddenly asked:

"How will people cross a hundred years from now?"

The questioner was called away before I had an answer ready, and lying back in a steamer chair, with half closed eyes, I thought about it-and not only

then, but ever since. A hundred years from now the City of Rome will, in the quaint sea phrase, have "laid her bones" either at the bottom of the sea or in a pile of fumber in some dockyard, and her very name will have passed to another and another craft, or have been forgotten. Even if some picture, taken today by way of advertising her final touch of perinction, should escape destruction and come under the eyes of the mariners and the voyagers of 1990, how they will laugh and puzzle over it! How they will show it to each other and say, "Did you ever see anything so ridiculous?" or "Now what do you suppose they did with that concern?" or "Just fancy having to carry hundreds of tons of coul to make their steam!" Or perhaps the very idea of steam power will then be as obsolete as donkey power is now; perhaps even electricity will be an old fashioned and primitive "power," and something we have not yet dreamed of will take its

Look at the methods of 1790 and contrast them with our own, whether in navigation and travel, or in motive powers, or in the size of enterprises, and then as all movements partake of the nature of snowballs and get bigger and move faster as they roll, we may double the probable difference for the coming centmry. Fancy that you and I, if we could be reproduced a hundred years from today, would be received with shrieks of laughter by our own or our friends' great-grandchildren. Our dress, our ornaments, our hairdressing, our very speech would be only fit for a museum and we who pride ourselves upon riding the very crest of the wave of progress would find ourselves to far behind the times that we could hardly keep our mouths shut for astonishment.

This especial thought was the one that struck me at the dinner succeeding my friend's careless suggestion. We had some very "swagger" people on board, "swagger" being just now the English slang for what they used to call "smart" people and swells, and we have styled "tony" folks. But how very obsolete, how absurd, how "impossible" the very smartest of these English peeresses or American sovereigns would appear if the City of Rome could plunge off this great wave into the last decade of the next century! How crude and extraordinary the dinner upon which the head steward of today so justly prides himself! How clumsy the table implements and mode of using them!

A hundred years ago the most luxurious diners had steel forks, sometimes with only two prongs, and a knife whose broad biade was rounded at the end into a sort of spatula upon which most articles of food were carried to the mouth. Most of us who have had grandparents remember seeing some array rolles of such cutlery preserved "for old times" sake" and as objects of incredulous amusement to our childhood. At that period, also, the most elegant ladies poured their tea into their saucers and so drank it, and whereas common people set their cups upon the cloth and so soiled it, refined ones had what they called cup plates, just like our butter

In those days everybody took up the bones of the chicken or bird and removed the last morsels of meat with their teeth. They also blew upon each spoonful of soup to cool it, and then drew it in with a loud noise. Remember the oldest person you knew as a child, or your mother's stories of those she knew, and you will recall the tradition of these liabits. Well, in a hundred years our own and those of the aristocratic company dining that day in the saloon of the City of Rome will be quite as astonishing-must we add quite as disagreeable?

And the food! A hundred years ago a family dinner consisted of one course and a pudding, and that first course was a great joint of meat set bodily before you, with no attempt at disguising its Identity, no graceful little combinations in the way of entrees, no pretty dishes whose foundation is hidden in mystery and whose superstructure is bewildering but very nice, like the poetry so fashionable just now. Then the pudding was some simple and substantial Arneture, such as we find described in the old, old cookery books, and such as still survive in English middle class families, especially in the country, and this

Compare this dinner with such a one s that ten-thousand-dollar-a-year cook is serving today, and then forecast the dinner to be served a hundred years hence to some millionaire whose a tors are today tilling a New Jersey farm or weaving ginghams in Glasgow, and try to estimate the difference.

And where will that millionaire live? Will New York have become a mere port of entry to Change, just as Liverpool is to London, or will everybody center around a royal court at Washington? Or may some utterly new city have sprung up and, like Jonah's gourd, have attained its maturity in a night? Who can tell? But if our present metropolis should by some marvel hold its own,

how utterly different that "own" will be Read what the antiquaries say of the New York of 1780; recall the stories that were affoot at the first the inauguaround the Battery and the Bowery, and Union park was suburban and secluded. What will have become of Central park a hundred years from now? Will the politicians have succeeded in stealing some streets off its borders, and running an electric road through its pleasant piaces, with a beer stand at every half mile? Or will there be mounted policemen at the second will have a replace with names ending in "phone" will have a uration

lic or hired vehicles to enter, lest they disturb the dignified progressof coroneted and liveried equipages

Can you forecast which extreme will then be in vogue? As for me, I am only certain that the world moves, and that the things of today are the starting point for the things of tomorrow and that just because we have so improved upon the methods of our fathers we may be very sure that our children will improve upon us.

But to come back to the City of Rome,

as she swung along to her decrepitude and her oblivion, and I lying in the steamer chair let my gaze travel a few feet beyond her deck, a few feet above her smokestack, and saw—t an? The sea and the sky! And how much change has a century wrought upon them? Or a score of centuries, or the ten or twelve millions of years at which I believe they just now set the age of our little globe? Probably Adam did not go to sea, and

Noah's famous voyage was only on fresh water, but whichever of the patriarchs first found himself out of right of land enjoyed precisely the same sea and sky scope that I contemplated from the deck of the City of Rome; and it is fair to conclude that the woman who "crosses" in the summer of 1930, even though she travel by balloon, wall see nothing differ-

And so with all Dame Nature's works. There are a few very old trees in the world; the cedars of Mount Lebanon, the olives of Gethsemane, some of the big trees in California-all date back from a few hundred to a couple of thousand years, and are to be taken as fair specimens of the timber of their day. But are they old fashioned?

Old certainly, as we count age, measpring it by our own puny span, but ally in silver gray their fashion differs in no respect from beaver, though of-BONNETS OF THE SEAthe fashion of the trees planted last Ar- | ten found in other bor Day; the roots still tend downward colors, and pure white. Tiny birds or and draw their nourishment from the soft plumes are set about in the ridges, same salts and vegetable solutions that and enormous bows of ribbon or velvet fed their ancestors, and the branches are set on the back. Some have strings thrust themselves up and breathe the and some have not. air, dividing its gases one from the other A great favorite with almost all woand condensing its dews upon their palm- men young enough to wear them is a like leaves, just as the first progenitors very wide brimmed hat of black felt, of those redwood trees did when some faced with prune colored velvet. On race whose existence we only dimly sus- the front is an enormous butterfly pect claimed "these United States" as bow of prune satin and black velvet their own, by some name, in some lan- striped ribbon, with a whole flock of guage whose very tradition is forgotten. | tiny humming birds perched in various The flowers of our gardens die year attitudes all around the hat. Prune by year, and we are fond of mentioning velvet strings finish the whole. them as "ephemeral," and using them as types of swift decay, but year by year they come up again, and a century ago the blossom was exactly that of today, and a century hence it will be no different, so that if the flowers discuss us as patronizingly as we do them they prob-

"Poor, ephemeral things! They live

recurrence, is the fashion of our clothes. at most two, it is old fashioned, common, out of style and gone by; but lay hundred years from now it will very the lilies of today, and then look at the with the fur. Down one side of the skirt statues of Greece and Rome, er, if you don't care to go so far, turn to some pictures of the time of the first Napoleon, when on his road to empire he halted for a few years in a consulate and a republic and emphasized his ideas by reviving the costume of the Greek repub-

Why do so many dear creatures, with Milesian or Saxon or composite features, dress their hair in a tight little knot on the back of their heads, with perhaps a fillet bound thrice round their craniums, except because such a style was found becoming to the low foreheads, straight noses and statuesque lips and chins of Helen of Troy or Penelope or Paryne or Aspasia or any other of the beauties of the world some 1,800 years before the Christian era began?

And here let me suggest that one trouble about reviving ancient fashions, however graceful and pretty they may be, is the impossibility of reviving ancient types of beauty. Before the Christian era and for many years after people did not travel as they do now, and consequently did not intermarry as they

Each nation as a whole was born, lived, married and died within its own | with a black velvet bow in front, borders, and so a national type, both of features and costume, was preserved and became identified with the wearers; but now that steam and electricity have fold of the same around the bottom, brought the ends of the world together. and it has practically as well as geo-graphically become a globe without golder brown. The sash is of the Ottoends, types are getting so mixed that a Grecian profile is as likely to be born in folds and a guimp of cream colored Alabama as in Athens, and a Roman crepe de Chine. The sleeves are laid in nose may have humped itself in Califor-scordeon plaits and finished with folds. mis and never seen the Tiber. But this being the case, my dear friends, when your dressmaler proposes a Grecian robe, or your hairdresser a Psyche knot, or your milliner a toque, or your saucy little cousin offers you her "Tam," pause and consider whether nature has adapted your style to those styles, and if she hasn't don't accept them!

This is, perhaps, a digression, but we return to the beginning and say once more that the fushions of today are many of them the fashious of a century or more ago, and there is every reason to believe will be the fashions of a century or two in the future, although, of course, there will be periods in the future as in the past when these very fashions will become so obsolete as to be almost incred-

In the Hotel Cluny at Paris there are some wonderful specimens of crinoline, three centuries old, and during the close swathed period of the First Empire these were doubtless looked upon as almost incredible moustrosities; but some thirty years ago people wore crinoline quite as extensive as those old skirts, although not quite so clumsy, and there have been several revivals between the days of Queen Elizabeth and this, as most probably there will be between this and the sovereign lady of the world in 2190, always supposing the sovereignty of any one queen in particular has not gone out

of fashion by that time. And so we may look forward another century with some absolute ignorance. and yet with considerable certainly. We cannot possibly imagine how people will travel, or what labor saving machines will have superseded those now in vogue; we cannot even guess how many things

been adopt to the present fist, but we thow pretty well that the sky, the sea. the trees, and the flowers will be just what they are toury: that the human race will more and more become assimilated to one pattern as they mix more freely and more sympathetically, and that our clothes, although their fashion lasts but one season, will be in fashion again and again so long as the fashion of clothes endures. So let us emulate our great-grandmothers, whose brocades are so fashionable just now, and lay aside our best gowns for the benefit of beauties yet unborn.

THE FASHIONS OF PARIS.

A face must be hopelessly ugly that cannot look at least interesting under one of the hats or bonnets of this season. There are some shapes in form of a cockle shell, with a crown hardly per-



in under the crown, and this gives a support. These shell hats are usu-

One of the most beautiful bonnets of the season is of white soft felt, with a border of gold lace, and trimmed with two richly colored miniature pheasants and about ten barn swallows. At the back is a small bow of black velvet ribbon, whence come the strings.

Fur alone is not considered sufficiently elegant for Paris, and so on nearly all sixty or seventy years and then die root ontdoor dresses and wraps there is added and branch, and nothing comes up from the place where they are planted."

a fine hand braiding or embroidery in the most elaborate tracery. This is done Another class of creation, apparently in silks matching the color of the garas short lived as the flowers, and yet | ment in two or three shades, and with showing the same gentle persistency in | gold and silver threads adding their richness. On some very elegant toilets, for You bring home from Paris the very instance like the visiting costume pictlast caprice of Worth or Crapsaud in a ured here, there is a fine tracery of silk gown or bonnet, and after one senson, or embreidery picked out in small real amber beads.

The gown and jacket are of tan colit aside safe from moth and dust, and a ored cloth, bordered with narrow bands of black Astrakhau, and with a vest of the possibly be found the height of the same with an inset of chamois skin in a fashion, the very newest thing out. V shape. The facings of the lapels of Don't you believe this? Well, consider the coat are also of chamois skin, edged



HOME AND VISITING TOILETS.

is a band of fur and the embroidery, and on both fronts of the jacket. The toque hat has a black velvet crown, with gold basket work coronet, and at the back is a bunch of faded brown velvet leaves,

For home a pretty toilet is shown with this. It has the skirt and sleeves of figured India silk, and there is a bias headed by three bias folds of Ottoman man, and the corsage consists of three The whole toilet is suitable for a young girl or a matron of reasonably slender Any soft material is suitable for this design.

A Financial Matter. "Good morning," observed the tramp easually, as he stepped in the broker's

"S'mornin'," was the reciprocal saluta-

"You're a broker, I believe," continued the tramp, and the broker modded.

"And a broker is always ready to make a fair legitimate per centum on any transections he may make as an agent or mid-

The broker nodded again. "Good," said the tramp. "Now I have this plain business proposition to make, to wit: By the last treasury report the total amount of money available for use in this ountry is \$1,425,000,000, which divided prorate among the people as enumerated by the Porter census—by the way, you think that census is perfectly correct, don't

"Certainly I do," responded the broker with good, strong Republican emphasis "As I was saying, this total amount divided on the basis of that enumeration will allow to each person \$25.25, and I as duly enumerated am logically entitled to that amount, ain't I''

The proker nodded. "Well," continued the trame, "you just keep the \$33 that is coming to me, and give me the quarter, and I'll make you out a quit claim. Is it a go?"

The broker handed over the twenty-five cents.-Washington Star.

One, but Not the Other. Laphson-Have you the courage to Tel. 295.

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